

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the claims, please cancel claims 1-18 add new claims 24-32 as follows:

1-18. (canceled)

19. (original) A method for delivering a molecule to the cytoplasm of the cell comprising:
associating said molecule with a reversibly inhibited membrane active polymer to form
a complex and delivering said complex to said cell wherein said complex is
endocytosed.
20. (original) The method of claim 19 wherein said molecule consists of a polynucleotide.
21. (original) The method of claim 20 further comprising: condensing said polynucleotide
with a polycation to form a binary complex and recharging said binary complex by
addition of said reversibly inhibited membrane active polymer to form a nanoparticle
wherein said membrane active polymer is negatively charged.
22. (original) The method of claim 21 wherein said polycation is crosslinked to said
reversibly inhibited membrane active polymer via a pH-labile bond.
23. (original) The method of claim 21 wherein said reversibly inhibited membrane active
polymer disrupts an endocytic membrane thereby providing delivery of said molecule
the cytoplasm of said cell.
24. (new) The method of claim 19 wherein said reversibly inhibited membrane active
polymer consists of a plurality of membrane activity inhibitors reversibly linked to a
membrane active polyamine via pH labile bonds.
25. (new) The method of claim 24 wherein said inhibitors consist of maleamates.
26. (new) The method of claim 25 wherein said inhibitors consist of disubstituted maleic
anhydride derivatives.
27. (new) The method of claim 26 wherein said disubstituted maleic anhydride derivatives
are derived from reaction of said membrane active polymer with disubstituted maleic
anhydrides selected from the group consisting of: carboxydimethylmaleic anhydride,
carboxydimethylmaleic anhydride-thioester, and carboxydimethylmaleic anhydride-
polyethylene glycol.
28. (new) The method of claim 27 wherein said inhibitors are cleaved from said polyamine
in an endosome.
29. (new) The method of claim 19 wherein said membrane active polymer has a molecular
weight of at least about 10,000 Daltons.

30. (new) The method of claim 22 wherein said complex consists of a nanoparticle.
31. (new) The method of claim 30 wherein said nanoparticle consists of a salt stable nanoparticle.
32. (new) The method of claim 31 wherein said complex has a net negative charge.